35. **Medical Relief.**—Five Dispensaries, *viz.*, those of Changanachery, Chirayinkil, Kozhanchery, Nedumangad and Vaikom, were converted into Hospitals from the beginning of 1091. Since the close of the year, three more Dispensaries have been opened at Kumarakam, Mallappalli and Koni. The Women and Children's Hospital was transferred to the new buildings at Taikad, Trivandrum, and the staff of that institution was considerably strengthened. A section for the treatment of female patients was opened in the Kottayam District Hospital. In view of the difficulty experienced in finding seats for Travancore pupils in the Madras Medical Schools, the Government have recently sanctioned the opening of a Medical School in Trivandrum for the training of Hospital Assistants. The details will be worked out shortly.

EDUCATION.

36. **General Statistics.**—The report of the Education Department for the year is a chronicle of activity and progress. The total number of recognised educational institutions rose from 2,036 to 2,436 and their strength from 2,64,923 to 3,19,238. The number of aided private schools rose from 870 to 1,103 and that of unaided private schools from 146 to 290. 9 Secondary and 221 Elementary schools were newly aided by grants during the year. Including the unrecognised institutions, there were 3,851 schools in the State with an aggregate strength of 3,64,516 at the close of 1091. On an average, there was one school for every 2 square miles and 890 persons. It is in contemplation to bring the unrecognised schools under the supervision and control of the Education Department, by offering conditional recognition as an incentive to improvement. There was one recognised school for every 3·1 square miles and 1,408 persons, against 3·5 square miles and 1,684 persons in 1090. The total number of pupils under instruction in recognised schools rose by 20·5 per cent, against 17·6 per cent in the previous year. The aggregate percentage would be 21·1, if the unrecognised schools be also taken into account. 62 per cent of the population of school-going age were under instruction in recognised schools, giving a ratio of 81·1 per cent for boys and 33·2 per cent for girls. All the taluks, except Devicolam, which is sparsely populated, shared in the increase. It is significant to note that in six taluks, *viz.*, Trivandrum, Mavelikara, Tiruvalla, Kottayam, Changanachery and Minachil, the percentage of pupils under instruction to the children of school-going age was more than 100, on the usual assumption that the number of such children represents 15 per cent of the total population. This assumption is obviously incorrect, and a percentage of 25 has accordingly been now taken as the more approximate standard. According to this basis, 42·6 per cent of the school-going population were under instruction in schools during 1091.

37. **Collegiate Education.**—There were 5 Colleges affiliated to the University of Madras, excluding the Law College. The aggregate number on the rolls in these Colleges rose from 785 to 910.

38. **Secondary Education.**—The total number of recognised Secondary schools remained the same as in 1090, *viz.*, 79, but their strength rose from 18,840 to 20,646, showing an increase of 9·6 per cent. Of these schools, 66 were for boys and 13 for girls. Besides the above, eleven private Secondary schools for boys and one for girls were started during the year. Final orders have been passed, since the close of the year, on the scheme relating to the institution of a Provident Fund for the benefit of licensed teachers in private recognised Secondary schools. The teaching of subjects other than English in the lower classes of Secondary schools having been found to be defective by reason of those subjects being taught in English, orders were issued for non-language subjects being taught in the Vernacular in the first three classes of Secondary schools and for English being adopted as the medium of instruction only in the higher classes. The staffing of the first three classes by under-graduates, effected in 1090, helped towards this arrangement. Changes were made in the Education Code permitting the admission in any class, at the beginning of a school year, of five pupils over and above the maximum prescribed by the Code, so as to make allowance for possible withdrawals in the course of the

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year, and raising the maximum number of pupils to be taught in Form I from 25 to 30.

39. **Elementary Education.**—The growing demand for Elementary education called for the exclusive attention of a controlling officer, who combined in him a sound knowledge of the Vernacular with a thorough experience of local conditions. Mr. P. Ramaswami Aiyar, the Deputy Director of Public Instruction, was accordingly divested of the duties of Personal Assistant to the Director and placed in direct charge of Elementary education for boys, with effect from the 1st Chingam 1092. The number of Elementary schools rose from 1,917 to 2,317 and their strength from 2,43,604 to 2,96,104, the percentage of increase being 21·6, against 18·1 in 1090 and 9·5 in 1089. The policy of opening relief schools in view to the removal of congestion in Elementary schools, brought into operation in 1090, was steadily pursued. Not only were lower grade schools started in large numbers in the vicinity of higher grade schools, but the principle of the scheme was extended by the opening of higher grade classes in lower grade schools. The year was free from complaints of the refusal of admission to pupils for want of accommodation. There was an increase in strength in all the classes. The minimum requirements of a school-house for purposes of recognition and grant were defined, so as to admit of the free growth of private schools. 377 Elementary schools were started under private management during the year. Government note with pleasure the active interest displayed by private bodies and gentlemen in starting and maintaining schools. The number of pupils registered for the Elementary School Leaving Certificate Examination rose from 2,827 to 3,952, giving an increase of 39·8 per cent. Since the close of 1091, a scheme for the introduction of Manual Training in Elementary schools has been sanctioned.

40. **Female Education.**—Female education continued to maintain its high level. The Girls' schools rose from 323 to 341. Further facilities for the spread of female education were afforded by permitting the admission of girls into the first two classes of Boys' schools. That this concession was necessary is evidenced by the fact that over 47,000 girls were under instruction in boys' schools during the year. The total number of girls under instruction rose from 73,832 to 91,610. Of these, 50 girls were undergoing instruction in Colleges and 2,548 in Secondary schools. The revision of the curriculum of studies in Girls' schools is under consideration.

41. **Training.**—A Vernacular Higher Grade Trained Teachers' Certificate Examination was instituted for teachers for the higher grade classes of Elementary schools. Two of the Lower Grade Training schools, *viz.*, those at Kottarakara and Changanachery, were converted into Higher Grade Training schools in Malayalam, and the Nagercoil Training School was converted into a combined Higher and Lower Grade Tamil Training school. The course of studies for the Higher Grade Certificate was modified so as to admit of greater attention being paid to the study of such subjects as Hygiene and Agriculture. With a view to secure efficiency of teaching, the ten mofussil training schools were amalgamated with the Elementary schools which contained their Practising classes. Arrangements have been made for the training of a larger number of teachers in the Trivandrum Higher Grade Training School for Women from 1093.

42. **Technical Education.**—Year after year, the number of pupils who appear for the School Leaving Certificate Examinations is on the increase, and the existence of a large body of 'unemployed literates' is a serious problem for solution. In order to divert the course of studies in Elementary schools from purely literary into industrial and practical channels, provision was made experimentally in six Departmental Higher Grade Elementary schools for teaching some craft or industry of local importance. It is hoped that the practical turn thus given to Elementary education will be appreciated, and, if the measure proves a success, the scheme will be gradually extended. Instruction in commercial subjects is reported to have been introduced in two private Higher Grade Secondary schools. Besides the Weaving Institute, Nagercoil, and the Carpentry School, Quilon, both of which are departmental technical

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